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## Landscape Advisory Committee

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**Minutes of Meeting Held May 15, 2019**  
**900 S. Randolph Way, Tucson, AZ 85716**

**Members Present:** Jackie Lyle, Katie Gannon, Laura Mielcarek, Deborah Munoz-Chacon, Flor Sandoval, Nick Shipley, Ron van Ommeren

**Members Absent:** Jim Bennett, Ashley Pedersen

**Guests/Staff Present:** Beth Gorman, Pima County Environmental Quality; Marc Avery, COT Streets; Geraldine Larrington, Toxin-Free Pima County, Irene Ogata, Tucson Water; Parker Filer, UA Ag Extension Agent

1. CALL TO ORDER
  - A. Meeting called to order at 3:30 p.m. by L.Mielcarek
2. Minutes for Approval
  - April 17, 2019 minutes: Motion by D.Munoz-Chacon to accept with minutes, second by J.Lyle; approved – yes=7; no=0; abstain=0.
3. New Discussion
  - A. Meet and Greet TDOT Landscape Architect: David Marhefka- out of order; in Tucson 22 years, has been in the private sector, has been tracking the TDOT landscape architect position, has been able to work with Gary for 1 month; goals: looking into way to decrease hand watering, open to any thoughts, information; set-up layer on GIS mapping showing irrigation lines + sleeves; is aware of movement to update ADWR plant list, concerned if list gets smaller, currently has limited palette available; Glenn St. had 58 basins installed with a grant but no funding for vegetation, July will have HURF funds available for plantings, will need to coordinate SWG replacing lines in this area; Complete Street Task Force – current does not have utility representation; looking for assistance to identify street trees, especially replacements for downtown; getting James Femling, Streets, and Paul Rosenboom, irrigation, into the conversation
  - B. Air Quality: presentation & topic requested during LAC Jan. retreat: Beth Gorman presentation – talk about air quality in general, ground-level ozone, effects of vegetation; map of monitoring sites; Pima County monitors for 6 of EPA pollutants; real time monitoring – can go to site and get results; works with media as much as possible to get information out; graph showing 10mcrc or less – doesn't necessarily get down into lungs, in general, last few levels have been good, below standard; many pollutant levels have to do with weather; smaller pollutant monitoring – can get by natural body filter system and get deep into lungs, below EPA standards; EPA standards are national based on population size that have monitoring sites; ground-level ozone pollutant created from different sources – EPA reviews and changes standards based on research and protection of public health, trend of ozone has been declining, but research showing element has grater health effects, Pima County violated the standard last year, this pollutant is very weather related, if have breezes – less likely to form, needs very still air, combination of pollutants from other sources, when mixed together with intense radiation, right ratio of NOX:VOC; ozone irritates lung tissue (especially if have respiratory issues) – susceptible to infections; ozone sources = paper study of data reviews, results = NOX from motor vehicles (46%) + industry (power plants) (20+%), 80% VOC from plants, not sure of this result from paper study, UA Atmospheric Science study on VOCs just started – will monitor for 1 year, goal to find out where is it coming from; plants emit BVOCs when hot (major 4 types of plant elements that trigger formation of ozone), stress (?drought), presence of high ground-level ozone; just getting the word out, just starting to research; Maricopa Co has list of plants; handed out

brochures; not recommending folks not to plant trees, but to consider what type of trees; question = contact Beth Gorman

4. Old Discussion

A. LAC subcommittee Updates:

- Parks/Maintenance (Flor, Laura, Deborah): no new updates;
- Plants (Jackie, Nick, Ron) – J.Lyle, N.Shipley, K.Gannon attended ADWR Groundwater Users Advisory (GUAC) Committee meeting; V.Little presented her summary of data accumulations; is this something LAC would like to undertake; can currently go to website to add/delete plants, they require rationale for adding/deleting; next step is to consider criteria and continue further discussion
- Policy/Education: no update

B. IPM & community Landscape Maintenance – B. Dennis not present; update by I.Ogata: Mayor & Council Study Session April 23, 2019; working internally with departments to identify pilot projects to do calculations and monitoring format

C. LAC member vacancies: will invite applicants to June meeting – 2, potentially 3, for landscape architect, 1 for planner/architect, 1 for education

5. Staff reports

- A. TDOT Report – Marc Avery – regarding R.O.W. irrigation leak reporting, if reported to Tucson Water, information forwarded TDOT; will check with timeliness of TW reporting to TDOT; if TDOT receives information, they usually turn the water off till they can do repair; adding 6<sup>th</sup> DOC crew; putting signs out for project SPLASH, free sandbags at HiCorbett and Rodeo; pre-emergent contract out, TDOT does not want to store any chemicals

6. Chairperson's Summary of Current Events

- Desert Horticulture Conference, May 31, 2019 at Starr Pass
- Today, El Rio Golf Course Wash flood improvement Public Meeting, 1390 W Speedway at 6 p.m.

7. Call to Audience: None

8. Future Agenda Items:

- SAAG – Palo Verde Bloom Festival – would like to explore potential in April
- Summer recess - potentially in July

9. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 5:19 pm